

Chicago Times Herald.

COMPLIMENTARY NOTICE.

William B. Blake, more familiarly known as "Old Ragged-Edged Bill," is the owner of the Valley Messenger and News. The paper has no editor, but depends on clippings from other papers "until it makes them look like sevens," to quote a recent confession. Last week he chose to make on the subject of an odious comparison. He gravely announced the well known fact that the editor of the Pocahontas Times is not accomplished as a writer as his father. We maintain that we have never pretended to equal many men as writers. But the evil that men do lives after them. "Old Ragged-Edged Bill" has offended us, and we propose to tell of his qualities as a writer.

In 1874, when this old packy-wit was in the heyday of youthful wit and beauty, he wrote a touching serial story called "Stammering Bill," for the Musical Million, then published at Singer's Glen. We have it before us and are glowing over it. We know that any time we can publish it, and if we do the people of Pocahontas will rise in their wrath and drive him clean out of the country.

His scene is laid in the "loveliest valley in all Christendom. Only one thing to mar the quietude and peacefulness of nature. A row of great mills, whose ceaseless jar, and clang, and chatter, made it quite disagreeable living near them." Such is the elegant construction of his sentences! Stammering Bill is a mill hand. He stammers. It would be queer if he did not. The owner of the mill has a son. To-day he would have been called a plutocrat. It took a tick to describe him when Blake wrote about him. This plutocrat, a youth used to lam Stammering Bill around whenever he felt like it. Stammering Bill supported an aged Brahmin who lived in the woods. One day the Brahmin died. Bill went to sleep in the mill. He had a chance to push the young plutocrat into the water but did not do it. One night he saw the dam burst. The whole town lay below the dam. Stammering Bill had a notion for a while not to do a hate. But a song had been sung in the mill that day and a fragment which had lodged on the rafters overhead fell on his ear and softened him. He got a move on himself and rang every bell in the place, and every body got back to the hills, and though every house was swept away not a life was lost except Stammering Bill, who was finally overtaken by the flood.

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A PROBLEM.

We failed to state a problem correctly last week. It is as follows. Ashley had sixty apples in his basket, which he sold at the rate of five for two cents. The basket being too heavy for him, he divided the apples into lots of thirty each. One lot he sold at the rate of 3 for 1 cent, the other lot, of thirty, at the rate of 2 for 1 cent. Did he gain or lose by the transaction and why?

Under the first sale he would sell 60 apples at 5 for 2 cents giving him 24 cents for the sixty.

When he divided them into two lots, 30 at 3 for 1 cent equals 10 cents; 30 at 2 for 1 cent equals 15 cents; 10 plus 15 equals 25 cents the amount of the sale of the 60 apples when divided. What makes the difference?

If you take the trouble to investigate, you will find, in a country community, that the young men who subscribe for local and city papers are the ones who are foremost in business. And there are others.

WYLER says the destruction of the Maine was due to the "indolence of the crew." This is regarded as an insult to our navy. If he had said that the whole treacherous affair was due to the indolence of the administration he would have been nearer right.

The natural interest and indignation aroused in this country over the condition of the Cuban patriots has stirred the natives of the loyal Spaniard to its greatest depths. The blowing up of the Maine was a natural sequence to the feeling of hate which prevails among the Spanish people.

This day is past when a country paper can charge more than one dollar as a subscription rate. Anything over one dollar has come to be regarded by the public as velvet for the publisher; and when we consider that a rate for advertising must necessarily and primarily be founded on a circulation basis, we see the folly of a deterring subscription price.

The Monroe Watchman says that a young lady aged 16 years died in that county recently whose parents were fatalists. The daughter was not necessarily sick of an incurable disease, but the parents deciding by some occult means that their daughter was to die, refused to give the medicine prescribed and furnished by the attending physician, but the patient begged them to do so. If there is proof sufficient, the grand jury of Monroe County should indict these people as a warning against the practice of fatalism that may sometimes prove fatal.

A Winter Thunder Storm.

THE thunder storm last Sunday was as pronounced as those of summer. All the forenoon the air seemed saturated with moisture. About two o'clock the rumbling of distant thunder was heard. Some of the reports resembled the sound of a horn. The thunder became louder and the flashes of lightning could be seen. The redness of the sky was peculiar. One flash observed was that rare phenomenon, known as "globe lightning." In the west a globe of light, about the size of the sun, seemed to drop from the clouds and remained stationary for a perceptible length of time and burst into thousands of flashes, accompanied by a tremendous clap of thunder. It was the color of red hot iron. The rain began then, and in a few minutes the most severe hailstorm which has visited this county for years was in progress. The hailstones were about as large as peas, and were falling so thick that objects a few yards distant were totally obscured. All the while the thunder was rolling and crashing. The storm continued for about a quarter of an hour.

G. Washington Page.

DIED.—At his home at Walker, Vermont County, Minnesota, January 15, 1905, G. Washington Page, aged about 80 years.

He was a son of the late George W. Page, of the Lewis. About 25 years ago he moved to Monroe from Hunter Creek, near Haverhill. His wife was Miss Cornelia Buchanan, of Monroe County.

He was selected by his friends to be a member of the local board of health, and was elected to that position. He was a member of the local board of health, and was elected to that position. He was a member of the local board of health, and was elected to that position.

DILLEY'S HILL.

Jaeger Mace, of Webster County, is visiting his uncle W. H. Dilley.

The farmers in this part are plowing making ready for early crops.

Isaac Gragg has rented and moved to Prince Dilley's property. Gilmore Sharp is preparing for a saw set on his farm.

The show at Mt Zion school-house proved to be a tramp who sang a few comic songs.

Miss Nola Strader was home on a visit, accompanied by Annie Lee Ervine.

Mr James Hively disown'd school part of last week owing to a severe cold.

Miss Florence Hively was home from school last week on a visit, and returned with her best fellow to escort her.

The football fever seems to be reviving. At Frost and Dilley's Mill they still keep it up. George Sharp looks a blood vessel while playing at Frost Saturday.

Mr Manda Sharp is talking of going to Texas where her sons Hanson and Frank are.

We are having most beautiful winter weather now. So very warm for February. Stock is showing up well and feed seems to be very plentiful in this part.

Charles McKinley Strader died on the 11th instant, (son of William Strader), 10 months old. He died of pneumonia, and was sick two days.

Yours truly, "JENKINS."

HILL POINT.

Our strong men are returning from the lumber camps.

What of the compulsory school law? Is it any good?

P. G. Shuler, of Virginia, is in our vicinity operating a gramophone.

Valentines have been floating around here a great deal of late.

Sherman Pyles, the supposed indel, says he is going to Klondike.

There will be a spelling contest at Riverside, Friday night, February 25. Come, all ye champions, for ye have champions to contend with!

We hear that our County Superintendent highly commended the Riverside school and its discipline as being the best in the District.

The school on Stamping Creek closed last Saturday. Although some persons were disappointed the last day, the school was considered a success. The scarlet fever in the vicinity prevented any entertainment.

One of the "pea" in a certain school not long since got whipped. His father concluded to have his revenge upon the teacher by making a complaint of cruelty to the trustees. The "post mortem" examination of the body of the victim revealed three little red stripes two inches long. The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty, and the trustees permitted the teacher to continue the school as before, and left him a switch in the room, also. They said they had as well stop the school as to forbid the use of the rod.

MEX.

SOMETHING appeared in the Alderson Mail about the Pocahontas Times recently. It was too blurred and indistinct to be read.

That populistic luminary, "looks like it had been set and made up in a blacksmith shop and printed on a threshing machine."

Notes.

All persons are hereby notified that taxes due me as late sheriff of Pocahontas County and as receiver of J. C. Arbogast, must be paid at once. Do not neglect this notice to get ready to pay.

Feb. 14, LEROY GAY, late S. P. C.

SALE STABLES.

First-Rate Teams and Saddle-Horses Provided.

Horses for Sale and Hire.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STALLIONS.

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All genuine breeding Stock to be had on application to and by Young Men wishing to make a year.

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DO YOU TRAVEL

IF YOU TRAVEL, YOU WILL FIND THAT THE BEST WAY TO TRAVEL IS BY RAIL. THE RAILROADS ARE THE MOST CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE WAY TO TRAVEL. THEY ARE THE MOST RELIABLE AND THE MOST ECONOMICAL. THEY ARE THE MOST PLEASANT AND THE MOST INTERESTING. THEY ARE THE MOST SAFE AND THE MOST CERTAIN. THEY ARE THE MOST DIRECT AND THE MOST RAPID. THEY ARE THE MOST AFFORDABLE AND THE MOST GENEROUS. THEY ARE THE MOST MODERN AND THE MOST IMPROVED. THEY ARE THE MOST COMPLETE AND THE MOST PERFECT. THEY ARE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND THE MOST ATTRACTIVE. THEY ARE THE MOST USEFUL AND THE MOST VALUABLE. THEY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND THE MOST NECESSARY. THEY ARE THE MOST ESSENTIAL AND THE MOST INDISPENSIBLE. THEY ARE THE MOST VITAL AND THE MOST CRUCIAL. THEY ARE THE MOST POWERFUL AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE. THEY ARE THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AND THE MOST DOMINANT. THEY ARE THE MOST PREVALENT AND THE MOST UNIVERSAL. THEY ARE THE MOST COMMON AND THE MOST ORDINARY. THEY ARE THE MOST FAMILIAR AND THE MOST KNOWN. THEY ARE THE MOST RECOGNIZED AND THE MOST ACCEPTED. THEY ARE THE MOST ESTABLISHED AND THE MOST PROVED. THEY ARE THE MOST TESTED AND THE MOST TRIED. THEY ARE THE MOST PROVEN AND THE MOST CONFIRMED. THEY ARE THE MOST ASSURED AND THE MOST SECURE. THEY ARE THE MOST GUARANTEED AND THE MOST PROMISED. THEY ARE THE MOST DELIVERED AND THE MOST OBTAINED. THEY ARE THE MOST ACQUIRED AND THE MOST POSSESSED. THEY ARE THE MOST ENJOYED AND THE MOST APPRECIATED. THEY ARE THE MOST VALUED AND THE MOST TREASURED. THEY ARE THE MOST PRIZED AND THE MOST RESPECTED. THEY ARE THE MOST HONORED AND THE MOST REVERED. THEY ARE THE MOST ADMIRABLE AND THE MOST PRAISEWORTHY. THEY ARE THE MOST WORTHY AND THE MOST DESERVING. THEY ARE THE MOST MERITORIOUS AND THE MOST VIRTUOUS. THEY ARE THE MOST UPRIGHT AND THE MOST JUST. THEY ARE THE MOST FAIR AND THE MOST EQUITABLE. THEY ARE THE MOST HONEST AND THE MOST SINCERE. THEY ARE THE MOST TRUTHFUL AND THE MOST REAL. THEY ARE THE MOST PURE AND THE MOST CLEAN. THEY ARE THE MOST WHOLE AND THE MOST SOUND. THEY ARE THE MOST HEALTHY AND THE MOST SOUND. THEY ARE THE MOST VIGOROUS AND THE MOST ACTIVE. THEY ARE THE MOST LUSTY AND THE MOST BOLD. THEY ARE THE MOST COURAGEOUS AND THE MOST BRAVE. THEY ARE THE MOST VALIANT AND THE MOST HEROIC. THEY ARE THE MOST MANLY AND THE MOST MAJESTIC. THEY ARE THE MOST NObLE AND THE MOST GLORIOUS. THEY ARE THE MOST GREAT AND THE MOST MAGNIFICENT. THEY ARE THE MOST POWERFUL AND THE MOST DOMINANT. THEY ARE THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AND THE MOST DOMINANT. THEY ARE THE MOST PREVALENT AND THE MOST UNIVERSAL. THEY ARE THE MOST COMMON AND THE MOST ORDINARY. THEY ARE THE MOST FAMILIAR AND THE MOST KNOWN. THEY ARE THE MOST RECOGNIZED AND THE MOST ACCEPTED. THEY ARE THE MOST ESTABLISHED AND THE MOST PROVED. THEY ARE THE MOST TESTED AND THE MOST TRIED. THEY ARE THE MOST PROVEN AND THE MOST CONFIRMED. THEY ARE THE MOST ASSURED AND THE MOST SECURE. THEY ARE THE MOST GUARANTEED AND THE MOST PROMISED. THEY ARE THE MOST DELIVERED AND THE MOST OBTAINED. THEY ARE THE MOST ACQUIRED AND THE MOST POSSESSED. THEY ARE THE MOST ENJOYED AND THE MOST APPRECIATED. THEY ARE THE MOST VALUED AND THE MOST TREASURED. THEY ARE THE MOST PRIZED AND THE MOST RESPECTED. THEY ARE THE MOST HONORED AND THE MOST REVERED. THEY ARE THE MOST ADMIRABLE AND THE MOST PRAISEWORTHY. THEY ARE THE MOST WORTHY AND THE MOST DESERVING. THEY ARE THE MOST MERITORIOUS AND THE MOST VIRTUOUS. THEY ARE THE MOST UPRIGHT AND THE MOST JUST. THEY ARE THE MOST FAIR AND THE MOST EQUITABLE. THEY ARE THE MOST HONEST AND THE MOST SINCERE. THEY ARE THE MOST TRUTHFUL AND THE MOST REAL. THEY ARE THE MOST PURE AND THE MOST CLEAN. THEY ARE THE MOST WHOLE AND THE MOST SOUND. THEY ARE THE MOST HEALTHY AND THE MOST SOUND. THEY ARE THE MOST VIGOROUS AND THE MOST ACTIVE. THEY ARE THE MOST LUSTY AND THE MOST BOLD. THEY ARE THE MOST COURAGEOUS AND THE MOST BRAVE. THEY ARE THE MOST VALIANT AND THE MOST HEROIC. THEY ARE THE MOST MANLY AND THE MOST MAJESTIC. THEY ARE THE MOST NObLE AND THE MOST GLORIOUS. THEY ARE THE MOST GREAT AND THE MOST MAGNIFICENT.

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